Creating Practice Templates for WWA

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This document was created to assist offices in setting up practice templates for WWA until baseline practice capabilities are introduced in AWIPS OB2. These instructions will step through the setup and troubleshooting of practice templates for winter weather products (Test Winter Storm Watch, Test Winter Storm Warning, and Test Snow Advisory). The availability of these templates will allow offices to practice the issuance of statements and warnings in a manner that WWA will recognize, but their issuance will not show up on the web or in neighboring sites WWA software. This should help offices develop efficient training scenarios in WWA.

I. Creating the Work File

1. Login into lx1 as fxa

2. cd /awips/fxa/data/localizationDataSets/CCC (where CCC is your site ID)

3. cp WWA_wsw.wwaProd WWA_wrk.wwaProd (This sets up the work template that will be referred to by the practice templates that we create).

4. Place the GRR Practice Templates in the /awips/fxa/data/localizationDataSets/CCC (where CCC is your site ID) directory. *If you do not know how to do this talk to your AWIPS focal point or ESA.* Then copy these templates to the /data/fxa/customFiles directory as well (be sure that when you copy them to the /data/fxa/customFiles directory that you change the extension from .wwaProd to .preWWA). Examples of the copy commands to get the files to /data/fxa/customFiles follow below:

cp WWA_ztest_wintstrm_wat.wwaProd /data/fxa/customFiles/WWA_ztest_wintstrm_wat.preWWA

cp WWA_ztest_wintstrm_wrn.wwaProd /data/fxa/customFiles/WWA_ztest_wintstrm_wrn.preWWA

cp WWA_ztest_snow_adv.wwaProd /data/fxa/customFiles/WWA_ztest_snow_adv.preWWA

II. Setting up Practice Products in the WWA Configuration GUI

The example below will guide you through the setup of a Test Winter Storm Watch. Information (GRR practice template file names etc.) on Winter Storm Warning and Snow Advisories will be provide in parentheses throughout the instructions below.

1. Launch the WWA configuration GUI.

2. In the Watch (or the Warning or Advisory section if you are creating a Test Winter Storm

Warning or Test Snow Advisory, respectively) section right click and select *Add*.

3. Enter *Winter Storm* for the **Generic Name** and *Ztest Winter Storm* for **Specific Name** (for Winter Storm Warning the Generic Name will be *Winter Storm* and the Specific Name will be *Ztest Winter Storm* while for a Snow Advisory the Generic Name will be *Winter Weather* and the Specific Name will be *Ztest Snow*).

4. All of the fields in this setup GUI, with the exception of the **Identifiers**, and the **Text Template File,** will mimic those in your actual watch, warning, and advisory set up. So, set up the **Time Options, UGC Format, WWA Composer, etc.** to what you have for your actual Winter Storm Watch (or Warning or Advisory depending on the template you are setting up).

5. In the **Identifiers** section enter *WRK* for the Issuance, FollowUp, Clearing, and Canceling options. This is important. These must be set to WRK.

6. The **Text Template File** should point to WWA_ztest_wintstrm_wat.wwaProd (or WWA_ztest_wintstrm_wrn.wwaProd and WWA_ztest_snow_adv.wwaProd for the Winter Storm Warning and Snow Advisory, respectively).

After entering the name for the Text Template File click on Edit to update the file.

A. Be sure that the PIL line $$cccValue!WSW$$xxxValue! has been changed to $$cccValue!WRK$$xxxValue! (It should already be this way in the GRR templates)

B. In the TTAA00 line you will want to change KGRR to your site ID.

C. Ensure that proper test wording is dispersed throughout the file (this should also already be completed in the GRR text templates).

Note: The files are named Ztest so that they will appear at the bottom of the appropriate Watch, Warning, or Advisory drop down menu. Hopefully, this will keep them out of the way and make them easily identifiable as test templates.

7. Once you have made these changes to the practice template once again ensure that the settings in the set up GUI for your practice template are the same as the actual template with the exception of the **Specific Name**, **Identifiers**, and **Text Template File** sections. When you are satisfied with the configuration select **Save**. *Complete this setup for all practice templates.*

8. Now that you have set up the practice templates you will want to run localization on lx1. To do this go to the /awips/fxa/data/localization/scripts directory on lx1 and type the following command: ./mainScript.csh -wwa (Note: You must be user fxa when you run mainScript.csh).

III. Testing and Troubleshooting

Once these steps are complete you should be able to test out your practice templates.

1. Launch WWA on one of the workstations (select the lx1 option from the root menu).

2. Select *New...* In the WWA-Monitor

3. Check to ensure that your practice Watch, Warning, and Advisory are located in the appropriate drop down menus (if they are not, check to make sure that the Generic Name in the WWA configuration GUI for your practice templates matches the Generic Name for your actual 'live' templates).

4. Select the practice Watch, Warning, or Advisory of your choice, select a duration, highlight a few counties to test, and then select *Save and Create Text*.

    If you receive the error "***Formatting Failed***" or "***WWA Created but there was an Update Server Error***" check to ensure that you have a WWA_wrk.wwaProd file with the contents of the WWA_wsw_wwa.Prod file in the /awips/fxa/data/localizationDataSets/CCC (where CCC is your site ID) directory.

5. The Header Block which pops up on your text workstation should be CCCWRKXXX.

    If the Header Block contains WSW instead of WRK check to ensure that you have WRK entered for all of the options (Issuance, FollowUp, Clearing, and Canceling) in the **Identifiers**

section in the WWA configuration GUI for the template you are testing. Also, check to ensure the you have $$cccValue!WRK$$xxxValue! for the PIL line in the actual test template.

6. If the product pops up as a WRK file on your text workstation enter into the product, ensure that proper test wording is indicated throughout the product, then send it (remember it must be CCCWRKXXX). You will likely receive the error "*Message Handling System: can't send CCCWRKXXX - error finding wmo id*". Simply acknowledge this error.

Within a few seconds the product should be seen as issued (turn white) in the WWA-Monitor. At this point you should be able to use the Follow Ups, Clear, Cancel etc. just as you would with a regular template.

Once you have tested your templates and are comfortable that they work run localization with the -wwa option on lx2 as well. At this point you should be done. If you have any questions or problems you can reach Randy Graham at (616) 949-0643 ext 766.